3. *Eskazine* :

The manufacture of Eskazine has already been discontinued by the company for quite sometime now.

Though manufacturers of de-controlled drugs are free to revise the prices, Government keeps a close watch and has intervened whenever there has been abnormal price rise.

Sale of Imported Vitamins by IDPL

707. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of PETRO- LEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 664 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th February, 1989 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IDPL sold the imported vitamin B1, Hcl, Vitamin B1 Mono and Vitamin B2 to non-associated formulators;

(b) if so, what was the quantity of each sold and the price at which each was sold;,

(c) what are the names of the other companies to which these vitamins were sold along with the quantity and price charged;

(d) what is the difference of amount between the landed cost of imports of each drug and the price charged;

(e) what was the price fixed for each drug for sale;

(f) whether it is a fact that IDPL is to pay heavy amounts on these drugs into DPEA; and

(g) if so, what is the amount worked out and recovered upto 28th February 1990 along with the details of each drug?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY) : (a) to (d) As per information furnished by IDPL, the imported drugs sold by it during the last two years were as under:

(In Kgs.)

	1987-88	1988-89
Vitamin B1 Hcl .	15000	..
Vitamin B1 Mono .	5000	..
Vitamin B2 . .	5000	3000

As regard the quantity sold to each company and price charged therefor and the difference between the landed cost of imports of each drug and price charged, the data being voluminous, the time and efforts involved in its collection will not be commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

(e) These drugs are outside the purview of price control under DPCO 1987.

(f) and (g) Do not arise as the item in questions are outside the purview of price control. Moreover under the Drug (Prices Control) Order, 1987, DPEA has been abolished.

Lapses in the Findings of Kelkar Committee

708. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) wheter any omissions and commissions in the findings of the Kelkar Committee have been brought to his notice; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) what steps have been taken to fix responsibility for such omissions and commissions;

(c) whether it is a fact that these are the handiwork of vested interest who collected money from the producer ;

(d) whether it is a fact that their action has resulted in increase in prices in general from 100 per cent to 150 per cent;

(e) whether his Ministry called for any explanation from the Chairman of the Committee and also from the officer incharge in his Ministry who examined and implemented them; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (f) The report of the Kelkar Committee, which had experts from different connected disciplines, was an experts opinion. Therefore, the question of fixing the responsibility does not arise. However, in the past comments, from Dr. Kelkar were obtaind on certain specific issues and he reiterated the view of the Committee.

Recently the Department examined about 1000 cases of the non-schedule formulations and it was found that the price rise in October, 1989 was more than 100% in only 15 cases, more than 50% in 89 cases and the rest below 50% base period being 1984 to 1988.

Identification of Drugs

709. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ti is a fact that his Ministry has already taken three years to finalise Category-I and Catcogory-II lists of DPCO-87;

(b) by when the Ministry would be able to finalise the lists; and

(c) how many committees were set up by his Ministry for identification of drugs for price control, what were the terms of reference of each and what was the period each Committee took to submit its report ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) The Drug (Price Control), Order, 1987 which was announced on 26.8.1987 had lists of Category I and Category II drugs at the time of its introduction. The present exercise to review these lists is based on the various representations received on the subject by the Government.

(c) Govt. had constituted only one Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Vijay Kelkar, Chairman, BICP for identfication drugs for price control under Category II of DPCO. On receiving certain representations after the notification of DPCO, 1987, the terms of this Committee was extended by the Government. The copies of the Main and the Supplementary Reports of the Kelkar Committee are alredy available in the Parliament Library. These Reports contain the terms of reference as well as the time taken by the Committee to finalise its Main as well as Supplementary Report.

Recovery of overcharged amounts on Flucort Range Formulations

710. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to to Unstarred Question 2080 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 13th March, 1989 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Flucinolone Acetonide was under price control order announced in 1979;